

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/JP2003/014854



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference A211-02/PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/JP2003/014854	International filing date (day/month/year) 20 November 2003 (20.11.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 29 November 2002 (29.11.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C12N 15/09, C07K 14/47, 16/18, C12N 5/10, C12P 21/08, A61K 38/17, 39/395, 48/00, A61P 31/12, 35/00, 37/08		
Applicant JAPAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY		

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of <u>3</u> sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) <u>1 DISC</u>, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>	
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>	

Date of submission of the demand 16 March 2004 (16.03.2004)	Date of completion of this report 07 July 2004 (07.07.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/014854

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

- ☐ The international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages _____ 1-65 _____, as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- pages* _____ 1-10 _____ received by this Authority on _____ 23 June 2004 (23.06.2004)
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- pages _____ 1-16 _____, as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☒ the claims, Nos. _____ 11-22 _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

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Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

Continuation of Box No. 1, item 2:

1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this report was established on the basis that of:
 - a. type of material
 - ☒ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 - ☐ in written format
 - ☒ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed
 - ☒ filed together with the international application in computer readable form
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purpose of search and/or examination
 - ☐ received by this Authority as an amendment* on _____
2. ☒ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
3. Additional comments:

* If item 4 in Box No. 1 applies, the listing and /or table(s) related thereto, which form part of the basis of the report, may be marked "superseded".

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-7	YES
	Claims	8-10	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-7	YES
	Claims	8-10	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Document 1: WO 02/053737 A1 (Asahi Kasei), 11 July 2002,
& EP 1354950 A1 & US 2003/0143540 A1 & US
2003/0170719 A1, refer to SEQ ID NO: 151-154

Claims 1 to 7

The invention that is set forth in claims 1 to 7 is novel and involves an inventive step in relation to document 1 cited in the international search report. Document 1 does not disclose cells that express both the Toll-like receptor 3 and the adapter protein TICAM-1, which is represented by SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 as set forth in the present application. Furthermore, even a person skilled in the art could not easily have conceived of such an invention.

Claims 8 to 10

The invention that is set forth in claims 8 to 10 lacks novelty and does not involve an inventive step in the light of document 1 cited in the international search report.

Document 1 discloses the feature of cloning the cDNA which codes proteins that exhibit an NF-κB activating action, and then screening for substances which inhibit or promote the activation of NF-κB using cells that have been

transformed by means of the DNA in question. In addition, the amino acid sequence that is represented by SEQ ID NO: 2 as set forth in the present application is identical to SEQ ID NO: 154 as disclosed in document 1, and the amino acid sequence that is represented by SEQ ID NO: 4 as set forth in the present application is identical to SEQ ID NO: 152 as disclosed in document 1. Furthermore, document 1 indicates that the proteins in question may contribute to the development of novel medicaments or therapeutic methods against autoimmune diseases, cancers, infectious diseases and the like. In general, it would be obvious to a person skilled in the art that if a physiologically active protein has been determined to be associated with a specific disease, then the protein itself as well as any associated substances such as agonists or antagonists which are capable of regulating the activity of the physiologically active protein are potential candidates for therapeutic agents against the disease in question.